

TO MY BROTHER'S DOG.

BY SALLIE M. BRYAN.

Rememberest thou the distant, dark-eyed boy,
Who calls me sister, and who owns thee friend?
Can time or place the love for him destroy
Ere thy brief life of little joys shall end?

Do no dim dreamings of vanished times
Come to thee as thou wand'rest out alone
Through half-worn paths, haunted with faint old rhymes
Of winds that sang to vainness long, long flows?

Does not the perfume mist that spring-morns fling
O'er violet bloom and tangled forest vine—
The music in the air, the wood-bird's wing—
Remind thee of the boy whose love is thine?

Are not the blushing autumn's mournful songs,
Whispered in aisles of crimsoned light and dim,
The winter's silent snows and wailing throngs
Of minstrel-winds all blent with thoughts of him?

I do remember once I told him o'er
My many soft and dim poetic dreams,
The early remembrance of a heart that wore
Sweet fancies thro' its vainly splendid schemes.

"Earth's treasures could not soothe—ay, I would even,
In this my burning thirst for glorious things,
Tear God's own purple clouds and stars from Heaven,
And crown with light caught from arch-angel wings!"

Half dreaming then, these feverish words I said,
When, with a ringing laugh of boyish glee,
He shook the brown hair round his careless head,
And cried, "A dog like mine's enough for me!"

Oh, wild, glad boy, who bidst the wind and sun
Leave their dark kisses on thy cheek and brow,
Nor ask of mortal loves—oh, aimless one!
I would, I would that I were such as thou.

Oh, blessed boy! whose sunny, hazel eyes
Have caught no shadow from late's thousand storms—
Who sends no murmur to God's holy skies,
And has no fear of evil's coming forms.

In every message, howsoever brief,
That comes to light his absence with its spell,
These words are borne as though they were the chief—
And such they are—"I hope my dog is well!"

Thou art a theme to make me smile—and yet
My brother loves thee, and I'll love thee too;
His greatest care is lest thou wilt forget,
Or hast forgotten—then to him be true!

A NIGHT ATTACK.

BY EMBERTON BENNETT.

General Lee, in his Memoir of the Southern Campaign, makes frequent and honorable mention of one Captain Joseph Kirkwood, of the Delaware line, whose regiment, at the battle of Camden, was reduced to a single company, of which the latter remained the commanding officer. Owing to the fact that Delaware could not raise another regiment, Captain Kirkwood, though truly deserving, could not by military rule receive promotion, and therefore remained in command of a single company throughout the revolutionary struggle, taking a gallant and distinguished part, not only in the bloody encounter at Camden, but also in the battles of Hobkirk's, Bataw and Ninety-Six.

After the declaration of peace, there being no other military service for this gallant officer, he removed with his family within the limits of the present State of Ohio, for the purpose of a permanent settlement. He chose a locality nearly opposite the present city of Wheeling, on the right bank of the Ohio, and erected his cabin on a commanding knoll, where, though greatly exposed, he remained unmolested for a couple of years. It was his intention to have built a block-house for further security, and he actually commenced one; but, from one cause or another, it was still unfinished in 1791, when the events occurred which we are about to relate.

One evening, in the spring of the year just mentioned, a small party of soldiers, under the command of one Captain Biggs, on their way into the country, stopped at the humble residence of Kirkwood, and asked permission to remain through the night, which was cheerfully granted.

The evening was spent in a sociable manner, in talking over the various events of the times, Captain Kirkwood depicting some of the more striking of the military scenes which had occurred in his experience, and also speaking, with a soldier's sensitiveness, of his chagrin at seeing officers younger, and of inferior rank, promoted over him, simply because his little State could not furnish a sufficient quota of men to give him the rank to which he was honorably entitled.

When the hour came for retiring, most of the men were assigned the loft beneath the roof, where, with the aid of straw and blankets, they disposed themselves very comfortably upon the rude flooring, Captain Kirkwood, with his family and the officer mentioned, remaining below.

All gradually fell asleep, and the house continued quiet for several hours, not a soul dreaming that a merciless enemy was even then stealing through the surrounding woods in the darkness, bent upon the destruction of the building, and the death of all it contained.

Sometime late in the night, Captain Biggs, being restless, concluded to get up and take a walk in the open air. Passing leisurely once or twice around the dwelling, he advanced to the block-house, and after examining it a few minutes, and wondering why the captain did not complete it, he turned his steps to the bank of the river. Here he stood a few minutes longer in quiet meditation, looking down upon the dark gliding stream, the rippling of whose waters, the slight rustling of the leaves, the plaintive hoot of the owl, and now and then the far-off cry of some wild beast, being the only sounds that broke the otherwise solemn stillness.

Once he fancied he heard a movement, as of some heavy body in the bushes near him; and knowing he was in a region of country not safe from Indian molestation, he started and turned quickly in the direction of the sound, looking steadily for some moments, and prepared for sudden flight, should he discover any further grounds for his partially aroused fears. But he neither saw nor heard anything to justify alarm, and turning away, he quietly repaired to the dwelling, re-fastened the door, laid himself down, and fell asleep.

Soon after this the whole house was startled by a loud cry of fire, which proceeded from one of the men who lodged in the loft. Captains Kirkwood and Biggs instantly sprang from their beds, and, rushing up the ladder, made the startling discovery that the roof was all in flames. A scene of the wildest confusion now prevailed, the men thus suddenly aroused, and half choked with smoke, not fairly comprehending their situation, and the wife and children all shrieking with terror.

As soon as he could make his voice heard, Captain Kirkwood ordered the men to push off the burning slabs, and while in the act of doing this, a volley of balls rattled in among them, followed by those terrific yells which ever proved so appalling to those awakened by them in the still hours of night. Two of the men were wounded by the first discharge of the Indians, whose position, on

the top of the block-house, situated still higher on the knoll, commanded the roof of the dwelling, and being greatly terrified, they all drew back in dismay, and some declared that their only safety was in immediate flight.

"Your only safety is in throwing off the roof before the whole house takes fire," returned Captain Kirkwood, as he pushed in among them, and put his own hands actively to work.

"We'll risk that," said one, as he hurried to the ladder. "I'm not going to remain cooped up here to be shot at."

"By heavens! you shall remain here till I give you leave to go down!" cried the enraged captain, as he sprang forward, seized the fellow, and threw him back violently.

"Let us pass!" cried two or three of the others, advancing toward the captain—the shots of the Indians meanwhile rattling like hail against the walls and burning roof, and their wild yells now and then resounding a-far through the gloomy wilderness around.

"What! Mutiny!" exclaimed Capt. Kirkwood. "For shame, men! for shame! Turn back this moment, and do your duty! Is it not enough that we have a common enemy without, but we must have a civil strife within?"

"Who dares rebel against Captain Kirkwood's orders?" shouted Captain Biggs from below, whither he had gone for his rifle. "Shoot down the first rascal that attempts to escape, Captain, or refuses to obey you!"

"Quick, then, pass me up my rifle!" shouted Kirkwood, who kept his position at the head of the ladder.

"Aye, here it is," returned Captain Biggs. Just as he was in the act of reaching it up, a ball passed through a small window, and, striking his arm, so disabled it that he let the weapon fall. Ripping out an oath, he picked it up with his other hand, and passed it to Kirkwood. The moment the latter got hold of it, he turned to the mutinous men, and exclaimed:

"Now, let me see who will refuse to do his duty! Back, there, and finish your work of throwing off the burning roof! The first man that attempts to leave this house, I swear to send this ball through his brain!"

The more mutinous of the number, finding the captain determined, and that there was no chance for them to escape, at once began to take an active part with those who were already doing their duty; and in a very short time the burning portions of the roof were dislodged and thrown to the ground—the Indians all the while keeping up a steady fire, and slightly wounding one or two more.

Thus far our besieged party had no opportunity to return the fire of the enemy; but now the latter, finding that their first attempt to burn the house was likely to prove unsuccessful, rushed forward in a body, with still wilder and more terrific yells, and at once began a vigorous assault upon the doors and windows, the former of which they nearly forced open at the first onset.

The danger now being chiefly below, Captain Kirkwood hurried down, and ordered the greater portion of the men to follow, leaving a few above to defend the open roof, in case the savages should attempt to climb the walls and make an entrance there.

At once tearing up several puncheons from the floor, a part of the men proceeded to brace the door in the most effective manner, the others keeping watch near the two small windows, and firing whenever they could get a glimpse of an Indian.

In this manner the attack and defense was continued some little time longer—another of the party inside being slightly wounded—when suddenly the sound of a heavy gun came booming through the air.

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to put it out. We have considerable water in the house, thank Heaven! and before they can burn through these thick logs, I trust assistance will arrive from the Fort."

Almost as he said this, a bright sheet of flame shot up round the cabin, shedding a lurid and fearful light upon those within, and was accompanied by a series of terrific and triumphant yells, and a general discharge of fire-arms on the part of the savages.

There was not sufficient water in the house to justify the inmates in throwing it over the roof; and all they could do, therefore, was to wait, in the most gloomy suspense, till some presence of



the fire could be seen between the crevices of the logs, and then attempt to check its headway within.

Some half-an-hour was passed in this manner—the Indians continually fetching and piling on more brush, until the lapping and writhing fire had ascended to the very roof—keeping up the while their yells of triumph, and occasional shots of musketry; which, combined with the lurid and ghastly light in which each saw the other, the loud and awful roaring of the flames, and the groans of the wounded, made a most terrible scene for the imprisoned inmates—a scene that cannot be fully described, and the horrors of which can only partially be comprehended by the most vivid imagination.

At length the fire began to dislodge the heated clay—which had been used to stop the chinks and crannies between the logs—and the furious flames to send in their devouring tongues in search of new material for destruction; and then all who were able set eagerly to work, dashing on water, and so checking in some degree the progress of the consuming element.

This was continued until the water became entirely exhausted; and then recourse was had to what milk there chanced to be in the house; and, after this, to some fresh earth, which they dug up from beneath the floor—the Indians still keeping up their yells, and firing through every crevice, by which some more of the inmates were wounded, though none mortally—and Captains Kirkwood and Biggs moving about from point to point, and animating all parties with their own heroism and the hope of speedy deliverance.

The attack began about three o'clock in the morning, and lasted till dawn; when the Indians, finding they could not be successful in their fell purpose without carrying the siege far into the day, and probably fearing they might suddenly be surprised by a large party from the Fort, uttered another series of wild, discordant whoops, poured in upon the building one regular volley, and then suddenly retreated—the men inside calling after them in the most taunting manner, the voice of the poor fellow mortally wounded being heard among the loudest.

About an hour after sunrise the whole party, having succeeded in subduing the flames, ventured forth cautiously, and immediately crossed the river to Fort Henry—Walker, the only one who lost his life, expiring on the way. Here all the living were properly cared for, and the gallant soldier was buried with military honors.

A few days after, Captain Kirkwood set out with his family for his native State; but meeting on the way some Delaware troops, who were marching to the Indian country, and who offered him the command of their body, he took leave of his family and turned back. In the November following, he took part in the bloody action known as St. Clair's Defeat, "where he fell," says his chronicler, "in a brave attempt to repel the enemy with the bayonet, and thus closed a career as honorable as it was unrewarded."

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS

All the back numbers of the LEDGER, from June 7th, 1856, up to the present date, can be had at our office, in quantities or by the single copy.

A NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRL writes, "I am perfectly miserable, and want your advice. I was brought up in the country, and consequently, at the age of nineteen, I had seen but little of the world or of the people in it. At that age I married, at the earnest entreaties of my friends, a man I did not love. I thought I would learn to love him after marriage, but this I find to be impossible, and my whole life is embittered by the thought that I am forever bound to one whom I not only cannot love, but fear I soon shall not even respect. Can you help me in this dilemma? If you can and will, you will have the lasting gratitude of one who is now most miserable." Alas! no. We cannot help you, and publish your letter simply as a warning to parents and friends who would urge their children, or others dear to them, into loveless wedlock. You can only find consolation in the conscientious discharge of your duties, and for happiness you must look to the great Father of us all.

ANDREW is about getting married, and wants us to tell him "how to go through the whole ceremony." Why, go through it like a man, to be sure. It makes no difference which side you stand on, though the bride usually stands at the left of the groom. Some parties learned in such matters contend that the bride should have the right side, but custom gives that position to the bridegroom. All you have to say will amount to but little, and you cannot easily make a mistake; and if you do, no matter; it will be speedily rectified; and you will be a husband just as soon, which is the main point.

FOOT—This correspondent, who is probably a member of some debating club in which the characters of the illustrious personages mentioned below are soon to be discussed, requests us to "mention some bad traits in the character of the great Charlemagne," and also to inform him "of the bad side of Alfred the Great's character, and also of that of Frederick H. of Prussia." For the benefit of all such historical scavengers, we will state that we do not wish to soil our pen by assailing their dirty work.

UNION.—In a lyceum, the members of which are of all religious sects, and of all political parties, we think it would be injudicious to agitate religious or political questions, except it were done on some clearly defined, well understood, and mutually agreed upon basis—and even then it would be a dangerous experiment.

\$75,000.—This is the sum which a correspondent says he is worth in his own right; that he is a partner in one of the largest and best dry-goods houses in this city; is well made and robustly healthy; loves a young lady to distraction, to whom he offers his heart, hand and fortune, and she refused to accept an explanation at his hands. The young lady must have refused him from one of two reasons: she either wanted to have the pleasure of being "asked over again," or she wished to get rid of the seventy-five-thousand-dollar-and-a-half gentleman; and he had better call on her and ask *which* she wanted.

ROBBER.—A woman who is in the habit of sneering at mechanics simply because they are mechanics, would not be apt to make a good wife for a man who has to work for a living; so you had better let the "young lady" go, and look elsewhere for a partner for life.

J. L.—Pimples and blotches on the face are occasioned by impurities of the blood, and can be cured by frequent bathing and abstemious diet. We have no faith in the stuffs advertised to cure such diseases.

HAWK-EYE.—Do not elope. Get married boldly. You and your betrothed being both of age, nobody can lawfully interfere with you. Act above-board, and go ahead.

ROBBERICK.—Your resolution not to marry until you shall have accumulated enough to buy you a home is a wise one, and you would do well to adhere to it.

STONY BROOK.—We cannot tell what success you or any other young man would meet with at the West, or at any other point of the compass. Your success will depend upon yourself, wherever you go. Industry, energy, integrity, and economy will win their way anywhere.

LEMON wishes to know, "in case a married man, sitting by his open window, sees a really beautiful young lady, whose step is light and pleasant to behold, pass the house, and declares her to be 'a beautiful creature' in the presence of his wife, if that is sufficient cause of offence for the latter to 'flare up' and get angry and jealous, and disturb the peace and harmony of a once happy family circle?" Decidedly not, we should say. Every man and woman has a right innocently to admire beauty and grace, whether in animate or inanimate nature, in beast, bird, or human being.

A YOUNG LADY, of Hackettstown, wants to know, in case a lady on going to a party, and entering the parlor, should find people there whom she considered "beneath" her, if she should at once retire, or stay till the party is over. She should do nothing to wound the feelings of the hostess or of the company. If any of those present are from any cause disagreeable to you, let it not be apparent; be as cheerful and agreeable as you can while you remain, and take the earliest opportunity to retire, in such a manner as will not lead your hostess to imagine that you have been annoyed.

RICHARD III.—By all means give up your idea of "going on the stage," and accept the offer of a situation in the banking house. Should you go strolling over the country with an itinerant theatrical company, you would ultimately become a characterless vagabond, and probably die in poverty. By entering the banking house, and faithfully discharging your duties, you will certainly gain an honorable livelihood, and stand a fair chance of acquiring honor and riches in abundance.

INDEX.—We suppose the reason that Smithson, though an Englishman, devoted so large a portion of his wealth to the founding of a scientific institution in this country, instead of in England, was that he believed more benefit would be derived from such an institution by the people of this country than by those of his native land, and also that the interests of science would be more actively and persistently nurtured here than elsewhere.

H. R. N.—There is no "work on conversation" that will give you any practical assistance in the art. You must seek the intercourse of cultivated and intelligent people, if you would become accomplished in conversation, and you must also become cultivated and intelligent yourself. The first requisite of conversation is that a man should have something to say.

A COUNTRY READER.—The phrase, "knocked down in one's own house," applied to goods, means that they were sold at auction by the owner. In many parts of the country, such an expression as "a case of goods" is never heard, but instead, "a box of goods" is always heard. In this city, "case" is used ten times in this manner where "box" is used once.

A FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD AFRICANIAN.—You are probably in that distressing state of mind known as "puppy love." All you have to do to recover from it will be to live all your life as you live at that age when common sense begins to assert its sway. By that time you will, undoubtedly, look upon your present preposterous passion either with rollicking derision or keen chagrin.

HETTER.—Tell your mother all about it, if you desire to go on with the engagement; if not, stop the correspondence at once, and break off the acquaintance. A girl of your age should not embark in such important affairs without the advice and consent of her parents. Such clandestine proceedings are always certain to occasion regret, if not misery.

AN ENGLISHMAN, of Toronto, wants to know whether the true Englishman of the present time is a descendant of the Saxon or the Norman. That depends upon circumstances. Some "true Englishmen" are of pure Saxon blood, others of direct Norman descent, and others of mixed Saxon and Norman lineage.

GENERAL.—If you really love the young lady, there would be no impropriety in your communicating that fact to her in a letter, although you have never been introduced to her. It would not be apt to be disagreeable to any young lady to be told that she had inspired an honest heart with pure and fervent love.

PARROT.—The girl is evidently insincere and unprincipled, and you are foolish and infatuated. How can you put any trust in her when she tells you she is engaged to another, whom she is constantly deceiving? If you are not very cautious you will get into some most unpleasant predicament. Your best course would be never to go near her again.

W. D.—The only way to overcome your bashfulness is to work it off by frequenting the society of ladies as much as possible. Nothing else will cure you—and after all, what mode of cure could be more agreeable?—and the beauty of it, the more of the remedy you take, the better you will like it.

M. W. P.—Yes. We will take postage stamps for a few back numbers of the LEDGER, and for odd change on subscriptions, but not for sums of a dollar or more. It is not necessary to register a letter containing money. The sender can register it or not, as he chooses.

OCTAVIO.—Declare your intentions. That will bring matters to a focus. Girls are averse to taking hints on such delicate matters as those of love and marriage, wherein they are so apt to have erroneous and mortifying constructions put upon their conduct.

HARRY.—Habitual profanity in a man would be a sufficient reason for a woman's breaking off a marriage engagement with him; and she would be sustained in so doing by almost any, if not every, court in the Union, provided she did not know of the vile habit when she engaged herself to him.

QUADRANT.—Of course it would be proper for you to continue to pay your respects to the young lady, and to win her love and consent of her parents. Such clandestine proceedings are always certain to occasion regret, if not misery.

SALLY.—It is not only impolite but outrageous for a man to declare in a sitting-room occupied by ladies and gentlemen to many of whom smoke is offensive. He should be dealt with in a summary manner.

SANT LOUIS.—Where parties but slightly acquainted meet in the street, the gentlemen should wait for the lady to salute first; but when they are on intimate terms, this rule need not be rigidly adhered to.

F. H.—When writing to a lady, or to a gentleman, on matters on which they are less interested than yourself, it is not only proper but imperative that you enclose a stamp with which to pay the postage on a reply.

EVREKA.—It would be quite proper to ask the young lady's father's permission to pay your addresses to her with a view to marriage, if it is your intention to marry her.

L. PROVIDENCE.—We do not remember the lines you mention.

BLACK HAWK.—General Jackson was undoubtedly one of the greatest men the world has known, and one of the best men too. It is said that when he was quite a poor man his name would pass current in Wall street, or wherever he was known, because he was so inflexibly honest, and so prompt in the fulfillment of his obligations. He hated dishonesty of all kinds, and would not tolerate any laxity among his officers in the payment of bills. A good story is told of him in this respect. While he was President, a clerk of one of the Federal offices in Washington was remiss in the payment of his board-bill, and at last his landlady, knowing Jackson's sentiments on such matters, appealed to him. He heard her story and then quietly said, "Get the man's note or duobill for the amount, and bring it to me." The landlady did so, the delinquent readily giving his note for sixty days; the President endorsed the note, and of course the bank at once discounted it. The clerk often sneeringly asked the poor woman what she had done with his note, and said he would like to pay sundry other bills in the same manner; but she wisely kept her own counsel. In due time the clerk received notice in the regular form from the bank, that his note for such an amount, etc., "endorsed by Andrew Jackson," would be due and payable on such a day. The gay young man laughed no more, but hastened to the bank to pay the note; and the day after that (for him) unusual event, he received notice that the Government of the United States no longer required his aid in its administration. The story of course at once spread over Washington, and from that time government clerks paid their bills promptly.

GODFREY puts the following case:—"Suppose a gentleman writes to a lady that he loves her and asks her to marry him, and she writes back and promises to marry him. He has never promised to marry her, but only asked her to marry him, and now he does not want to marry her as much as he did, the question is, could she sue him for breach of promise if he should marry somebody else?" Yes. And she could not only sue him, but would be pretty certain to get a heavy verdict against him, especially if he should be indiscreet enough to let his contemptible attempt at trickery be known. The miserable, false-hearted knave who writes or says to a lady that he loves her and asks her if she will marry him, and permits her to answer yes, and allows her to suppose that such answer is accepted as an engagement—he who does this thinking to bind her while he can at any time go free, will find himself greatly mistaken. Actions not only speak louder but oftentimes bind stronger than words. Such an act is in effect a promise to marry, and is declared by any court, and any jury would lay the damages all the heavier for such a petty, sneaking attempt to impose upon an affectionate and confiding girl. We hope that no reader of the LEDGER has done, or contemplates doing, such a despicable and cowardly thing.

A PUBLIC SCHOOL BOY of Tarrytown sends a solution of the arithmetical problem published in the LEDGER of February 27th. The problem is this: There is a piece of work which A can perform in twenty days, B in eighteen days, C in fourteen days, and D (who is a boy) in thirty days; in what time could they all complete the job by working together? The Tarrytown boy solves it by analysis, as follows:—If A can do the work in twenty days, in one day he can do one-twentieth of it. B can do one-eighteenth of it in one day, C one-fourteenth, and D one-thirtieth. By adding these fractions together we get 53-222 which is the portion of the work which in one day they could all perform together; and of course if they would take them one day to do that much of the work, it would take them 4-40-53 days to do it all. The Tarrytown boy is right. Many other young readers of the LEDGER have also sent us correct solutions of the problem.

DUTCH.—We can't see how you were duped. Had you taken the precaution to search the records before ordering the sheriff to levy on the horse and carriage, you would have found that they were mortgaged. You are indebted for your trouble to your own negligence, and to nothing else. As the amount of the mortgage is so small, you can buy it up, issue a new execution, and have the debtor's interest in the horse and carriage levied upon and sold. Your lawyer will explain the details of this maneuver to you, and see that it is done right, if he understands his business. If he cannot do this, you should employ somebody that can, for by doing it you can secure your debt, as, according to your account, the mortgage will sell out his claim for the face of it.

A.—The lady cannot marry again unless she gets a divorce or has very good reason to believe that her husband is dead, without subjecting herself to the liability of being punished for bigamy. She has received letters from him within three years, and of course knows in what part of India he was when he last wrote to her, and under such circumstances a second marriage would be rather a flagrant piece of conduct, and would be likely to subject the lady to much trouble and regret.

PURSCOTT sends the following problem, the solution of which he thinks will puzzle the "smartest" of the readers of the LEDGER. The problem is as follows:—Suppose, when the days are just twelve hours long in latitude 45 degrees North, a man starts from that parallel six in the morning and travels towards the sun till six o'clock in the evening, in what direction will he have gone and how far will he have traveled? Send in your solutions.

S. B. R.—We do not care to dictate as to any man's course in regard to attending balls or places of amusement. Every one must decide such matters for himself. If you honestly believe it would be sinful to indulge in such enjoyments, then you should abstain from such indulgence, but your employer must be allowed to exercise his own taste, judgment and conscience in deciding the matter for himself and his family.

ANXIOUS.—You should at once tell your mother the whole story, and then follow her advice. It was a grave error that you committed in consenting to receive proposals from the "gentlemanly widower," and to favor him with interviews which were to be kept a secret from your mother. A daughter should have no secrets from her mother before marriage.

MARRIAGE.—We have no recollection of ever having received your "original story," and in case it should hereafter come to hand, it will not even be read. As we have repeatedly published, we do not want, and will not, under any circumstances, take the trouble to examine, unsolicited contributions.

NEIGHBOR.—Your remedy, when annoyed by nuisances in your neighborhood, is to send to the Mayor or Superintendent of Police. It will do no good, however, to go to court with a long story that you are not prepared to substantiate. Brief statements of facts susceptible of easy proof are what they will require.

EMMA L. C.—Your handwriting is good enough for a copyist of law papers, and if you are skillful in deciphering illegible writing, you would be able to get along without difficulty. One great point in legal documents is to execute them without erasures or interlineations.

DIMICK AND GODFREY.—You should have some experienced house-builder and mason examine your chimney. No one can tell what makes it smoke, or how to remedy the evil, without a personal examination on the spot.

OMRON.—It would depend upon the particular circumstances of the case whether or not it would be proper for a lady meeting a gentleman at another lady's house to invite him to call upon her.

ROSE.—We do not blame you for objecting to your brother's allowing male friends to see many familiarities. If she does not exhibit more delicacy hereafter, you would be justified in breaking off the engagement.

A LADY TEACHER, Frederic.—We should be pleased to receive the receipt you mention, and are much obliged for your kind expressions of friendly regard and appreciation of the LEDGER.

JAMES M. RAE, Stanley Corners.—The gold-pencil prize concern that you mention is not to be relied upon. All these "gold enterprises" are swindling contrivances, and should be avoided.

B. E. W. S.—If you have sufficient energy, you can get along anywhere; if you have not, you can get along nowhere.

HURTLY.—If you are not competent to make up your own mind about your private affairs, it would be useless for others to attempt to advise you.

OSWALD.—We do not advertise steam plows, or any other implements, in the LEDGER, however cunning they attempt to get us to do so may be made.

BELIOT.—It would not be "beneath the dignity" of a young lady to canvass for a newspaper in order to earn a livelihood, or to do any other honest work for the same purpose.

MARK A. W.—The back numbers of the LEDGER containing the story of "THE WILD KNIGHT; OR, THE UNKNOWN CAUSE," will cost you twenty cents.

WHAVER.—You could probably get a berth on a whaling vessel in New York or Boston at almost any time, if your appearance should be satisfactory to the shippers.

INQUIRER.—We do not give the address of Fanny Fern to inquirers. A letter addressed